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IN ONE SCENE.

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“THE OCTOROON.”

CHARACTERS.

PRINCE.

JACOB McFLUSKY.

OLD SOBERSIDES.

O'T.

WEENEY PAUL.

ZOE.

Crowds.

COSTUMES.

Prince.—Smart dandy's dress.

Jacob McFlusky.—Dark coat, white pants, no vest, felt hat.

Old Sobersides.—Nankeen suit, broad-brimmed straw hat.

O'T and Weeney Paul.—Indian dress.

Zoe.—White muslin dress.

Crowds.—Gay gala day dress.

PROPERTIES.

Banjo for Prince—Whip and plug of tobacco for McFlusky—Spectacles for Old Sobersides—Barge or boat to be drawn off—Red fire for burning boat—False nose, bloody—Fire-crackers.

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“THE OCTOROON.”



SCENE :—*On the old Plantation. Cottage, L.H.—River
Massassip' at flat, with barge.*

*Crowd of colored folks discovered, about to embark on a
Picnic.*

CHORUS.

Shout, shout, darkies, shout !
It am de day ob jubilo ;
Our hearts wid joy am beating light,
Our barge am fastened to de sho',
No massa now, to stand aroun',
To make us dig and hoe de corn ;
His turn to work, and ours to play,
And dance and sing from night till morn !
(*Some take to casting off, others going on board.*)

PRINCE *dances on R., with banjo on his shoulder.*

SONG.—PRINCE.

Zoe is my darling, Zoe is my bosom's joy ;
 I'd like to be de President,
 Her mouf wid sweets I'd cloy ;
 I'd rig her out in silken gown
 Wid rings upon her toes,
 An' de crowd should fall upon deir knees.
 Whene'er she blows her nose ;
 O Zoe, don't you hear your beau ?
 Put on your duds,
 And quit your suds,
 And let's a-sportin' go !

Enter ZOE, to slow music, from cottage, L.

Zoe. O, Massa Prince, dat you ?

Prince. Wharfo' so mellomcholly dis lubly morning ?
 De brackbird sings in de bough an' de bullfrog croaks in
 de swamp, but de woice of eider am like de banging ob a
 tin kittle at a pug-dog's tail 'longside de woice ob my Zoe.

Zoe. But de crow am a crow all ober, and I— (*Seiz-
 ing his arm and with energy.*) L-l-look a yer ! (*Points to
 top of her wool, where a yellow knot of silken hair is seen
 protruding.*) Dat am some ob Mason and Dixon's lyin'.
 Go way, nigger ! I's only two-firds brack—de rest Albino.

(*Hangs her head.*)

SONG.—ZOE.

When Mudder Eve her cullers mixt,
 To make de fust chile for a lark,
 Old Adam he a courtin' came,
 And gropin' blindly in de dark,

Upsot a pail ob yaller wash
And mixt it wid de ebon squash!

Prince. My Zogy Pogy!

(Hugs her—she reclines her head upon his bosom. Bell rings, whistle blows.

Prince. Come—de bell inwites us, and de morn am fair.
Why should *we* be de only clouds upon dis emerald sky?
A—come!

(Leads her on board. Hurried music, boat casting off.

JACOB McFLUSKY, rushes on, R., very much excited.

McFlusk. Ah! too late, too late. No, she am not yet off. *(Snaps his whip.)* Dey's bofe on board, bound for a pleasant sail, but I's de chap dat'll spile deir billin' and cooin'.

(He cuts a plug of pigtail and sings the following
SONG.

When I was but a tiny t'ing
I took my whiskey raw.
But now I's come to man's estate
I swizzles troo a straw.
I lubs to lay upon my back
And count de greedy flies
Dat comes to feast on my nose
And shut my blinkin' eyes!

(Cuts another plug and a pigeon wing, and rushes on board. Music—great excitement—boat puts off, L., band playing "Walk Along, John.")

Enter OLD SOBERSIDES, from cottage.

Old S. *(Looking after boat.)* I don't half like dese yar picnics. But I s'pose it's all right. Yes; *(putting on his*

spectacles) dere she am, lallygaggin' in dat buck nigger's arms, and he slobberin' ober her like a sick monkey ober a jug ob new molassis. Sticks to her as if her lips wus a fly-paper and he wus a fly. *(Goes up.*

Enter O'T., R., a blind half-breed, led by WEENEY PAUL, selling matches.

Paul. Matchis, two boxes for one ce-nt! I've cried myself hoarse and nobody won't buy. If dis is de boasted sibilization ob de nineteenth century, I'll buy a keg ob old century whiskey and a tomahawk, and take to de trail, old man!

O'T. Weeney Paul, pauguk!

(Smooths his hair affectionately.

Old S. What's that you say about porgies? Got any to sell? *(Comes down.*

Paul. Matchis, on'y two cents a box!

Old S. Get away—I's got one *match* in my eye already. Go on, or I'll have you took up under de vagram act.

(Kicks O'T.

O'T. *(Benignly.)* Weeney Paul, pauguk!

(Rubbing.

Paul. Hullo! de boat's a-fire. Ole man, dat was a *slow* match, I guess, dat you hab in your eye.

(Hurried music.

Old S. Oh, sabe her, sabe her!

(Rushes into cottage precipitately.

Paul. Ole man, lem-me go! I's gwine for de spiles.

(Jumps over.

O'T. *(Sitting down.)* Den I'll sit down on one ob dese yar spiles till you comes back.

(Hurried music—the boat is seen floating down the river in a blaze. Fire bells.)

McFLUSKEY emerges from water with ZOE.

McF. Now she am all my own!

Old S. *(Entering from cottage.)* Can you support her?

McF. I is supportin' her.

Old S. Den take her off my hands!

O'T. Weeney Paul, pauguk. Whar's Paul?

Prince. *(Swimming ashore with Paul's body.)* He am here! Dat feller MacFusky had a wrastle wid him for her on de boat and trow'd him ober. Me too!

McF. Proob it!

Prince. In de wrastle de feller bit off de poor boy's nose.
Behold! *(Holds up a bloody nose.)*

Old S. Ugh! Take her, take her!

Zoe. My preserver!

(Throws herself on McFlusky's neck; hurried music and firecrackers. Quick)

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